

CHRIST THE KING & ST. COLMAN (Bitterne) OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION (Hedge End) ST. BRIGID (West End)

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth

Registered Charity number 1199568

Parish Priest: Fr. Elijah Fru Nde (emergency use phone number 0777 466 7010)

Office: 2 Dean Road, Bitterne, Southampton SO18 6AP – *Open Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 9.30am–1pm*

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Feast of the Lateran Basilica, Remembrance Sunday & 32nd week in Ordinary Time (Year C, Cycle 1)

9th November 2025

Reflection from Fr Elijah: We are the New Temple of God

At Today, instead of the usual 32nd Sunday liturgy, we are celebrating the feast of the dedication of a Church – the Lateran Basilica in Rome. Built by the Emperor Constantine, it was solemnly dedicated on 9th November, 324. As the first and oldest Christian Basilica, it is considered ‘the mother and head of all churches of Rome and the world.’ It the Pope’s Cathedral as Bishop of Rome. In celebrating this feast, we express our union with our Pope, Leo, and our loyalty to him as supreme leader of the Church. The feast also invites us to reflect on the important role of church buildings in our lives as communities of faith, called to worship and pray together. Furthermore, it challenges us to recognize our personal baptismal identity as temples of the Holy Spirit, and to confirm that identity by the way we live.

Our readings today tell us about two Temples, the Temple of Jerusalem, and the temple that is Christ’s body. In the first reading, the prophet Ezekiel uses the image of a mighty river flowing from the temple of Jerusalem, and enriching the land, to express his hope for the renewal of Israel. Ezekiel envisions a time when the river of God’s grace and blessing will flow from his throne, bringing healing and transformation to the land and its people.

In the gospel, Jesus reminds his Jewish audience of his imminent death and resurrection, using the temple as an image: ‘Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up’ (Jn. 2:19). As St. John explains, Jesus is referring to the temple that is his body, not the Temple of Jerusalem. By our union with Christ in baptism, we too, as St Paul reminds us in our second reading, are temples of God: ‘Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?...God’s temple is holy, and that temple is you’ (1 Cor 3:16-17).

Mass Times and Intentions

32nd week in Ordinary Time

Exposition & Rosary at 9.30am before Mass (Tue-Fri). Sacrament of Confession is available on request.

Mass Intentions can be requested through Fr Elijah or the Parish Office.

Date	Times & Location			Mass Intentions & Feasts
Sun 9 th November <i>Feast of the Lateran Basilica & Remembrance Sunday</i>	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	In thanksgiving for God’s blessings Elizabeth Diagboya
	5.30pm 6pm	SB CKSC	Mass Mass (in Polish)	100 th birthday of Seamus Shelley
Tue 11 th November	10am	OLA	Mass	For the intentions of David Walford
Wed 12 th November	10am	SB	Mass	
Thur 13 th November	10am	CKSC	Mass	Margaret Dunning RIP
Fri 14 th November	10am	OLA	Mass	For the people
Sat 15 th November	10am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
Sun 16 th November	9.15am	OLA	Mass	For the people
	11am	CKSC	Mass	For the people
	5.30pm 6pm	SB CKSC	Mass Mass (in Polish)	For the repose of the soul of Brian T Smith
This Sunday’s readings can be found at https://universalis.com/europe.english/20251109/mass.htm				

Within our Parish

Parish Safeguarding Minister: Are you a good listener and a friendly face? We need a safeguarding representative from each church who is happy to be a point of contact to those in our church who need a little help. If you are interested in more information, please contact the parish office, or speak with Fr Elijah directly.

Feast of Christ the King: To celebrate our feast day Christ the King at 11am Mass on 23rd November we would like to offer cakes to parishioners as they leave Mass. So this can happen, we would be grateful for donations of individual cakes that can easily be handed out. Please leave them at the back of the church on the 23rd. Thank you.

Christmas Mini Mart: on Sunday 30th November 2025 after mass at the Church Hall in Hedge End. Donation boxes are at the back of the church in Hedge End and West End, tickets on sale NOW! Good condition items only and has not passed its sell-by-date. Please no bric-a-brac, old books or clothes or earrings. Mince pies and Christmas biscuits can also be donated on the day. Set up on **Saturday 29th November** (time tbc) please do come along and help. We need someone to organise and run the tombola and someone to sell tickets at Hedge End and West End. If interested, please contact beagillmartin@googlemail.com

SCRATCH Christmas Complete Appeal 2025: We have been asked to collect donations of excellent quality second-hand books, games, puzzles and soft toys only. No other second hand toys are being collected this year. You can visit their website www.scratchcharity.co.uk to buy a gift from Amazon to be directly delivered to SCRATCH. Donations can be dropped off at the OLA hall on Saturday, Nov 29th and Sunday, Nov 30th from 10am - 4pm.

Stella Maris Christmas Chocolate Appeal: Can you help us give a Christmas chocolates to Seafarers this December? Did you know there will be about 400,000 Seafarers working over Christmas, separated from their families and friends? We want to show them that they are not forgotten this Christmas, so we're planning to collect hundreds of chocolate Christmas presents for seafarers visiting the Southampton ports in the days before Christmas. Can you help us by donating chocolate gifts?

FREE: The desk at the back of the church at CKSC (next to the organ) is available for anyone who can use it and is able to take it away.

Income August 2025

Our Lady of the Assumption & St Brigid	
Loose offertory	1096.04
Standing Orders & Direct debits	1426.00
Hall rent	624.00
Donation Day	60.00
Candles & flowers	71.90
Cricket Parking	920.00
Other donations and fund raising	120.00

Christ the King & St Colman	
Loose offertory	348.66
Contactless giving	302.87
Standing Orders & Direct debits	1937.50
Church maintenance	293.31
Hall rent	1275.00
Candles & flowers	25.66
Repository	6.28

Recurring Events

Our Lady of the Assumption – Hedge End

- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall every Sunday after Holy Mass
- Children's liturgy during Mass every 3rd Sunday of the month (not during summer holidays)

Christ the King & St Colman – Bitterne

- Prayer group every Thursday 10.30am-12 noon
- Children's liturgy for 4 to 7-year-olds every Sunday during term time

St Brigid – West End

- Tea, coffee & cake every 2nd Sunday of the month after Mass

- Carers Group on third Wednesday of every month from 7.00pm to 8.30pm
- Growing in Faith every Tuesday evening 7:30-9pm
- Table tennis every Tuesday from 9.30am to 12pm
- Open Church every Thursday from 10am-12pm
- Tea, coffee, biscuits & friendly chat in the hall after Holy Mass every 1st Sunday of the month
- Choir practice in hall - 7:30pm on 2nd & 4th Friday each month. All welcome.

The next Parish Pastoral Council meeting is on the 15th January, please submit any points of discussion to the office.

Continuing to Support the Church

Please consider setting up a **standing order**.

For Christ the King & St Colman:

Account Name: CDP Christ the King & St Colman
Sort code: 30-93-04
Account Number: 00887553

For Our Lady of the Assumption and St Brigid:

Account Name: CDP Hedge End Our Lady
Sort code: 30-93-04
Account Number: 00879747

Please mention which fund you are donating to as a reference.
Make out cheques for Fr Elijah to Rev Fru N Elijah
Thank you for your support